



County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION
(858) 505-6880 FAX (858) 505-6848
<http://www.sdcdeh.org>



MANAGEMENT OF REGULATED WASTES GENERATED BY DENTAL, VETERINARY AND MEDICAL PRACTICES

CONTAINMENT & LABELING

	BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE	SHARPS WASTE	PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE	PATHOLOGY WASTE	CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE	
					Trace	Pourable or
CONTAINER TYPES	Biohazard bag inside a closed, clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair.	Rigid, puncture-resistant container that, when sealed, is leak resistant and cannot be opened without great difficulty.	Clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair with tight fitting cover.	Clean, leak resistant, rigid container in good repair with tight fitting cover. Red or white biohazardous bags.	Sharps Container, yellow or red biohazard bags.	Compatible hazardous waste container.
WASTE and CONTAINER MANAGEMENT	Tie bags to prevent spillage.	May place sharps containers ready for disposal in biohazard bags or in containers with the biohazard bags.	Only NON-RCRA* pharmaceutical waste can be managed as medical waste. RCRA** pharmaceutical waste must be managed as a hazardous waste. *California-only hazardous waste **Federal hazardous waste (due to federal listing or waste characteristics).	Recognizable human anatomical parts & fixed tissues must be managed as pathology waste.	Only trace chemotherapy (<3% by weight) can be managed as medical waste.	Bulk chemo therapy (≥3% by weight) must be managed as a hazardous waste.
SEGREGATION	Segregate from other wastes and label as described below					
CONTAINER LABELING	Generator's label and either: "Biohazardous Waste" or International Biohazard symbol and word "BIOHAZARD" on lid & sides	Generator's label and, on lids & sides of container, either: "Sharps Waste" or International Biohazard symbol and word "BIOHAZARD"	Generator's label and the words "Incineration Only" on lid and sides of container.	Generator's label and either: "Biohazardous Waste" or International Biohazard Symbol and word "BIOHAZARD" & either: "Pathology Waste" or "PATH" on lid and sides of container.	Generator's label and either: "Biohazardous Waste" or International Biohazard Symbol and word "BIOHAZARD" & either: "Chemotherapy Waste" or "CHEMO" on lid and sides of container.	Generator's label, words "Hazardous Waste", contents, physical state, hazardous properties & accumulation start date.
CONSOLIDATION	Sharps waste & pharmaceutical wastes may be consolidated in a common container, that may be reusable, if labeled and treated with "HIGH HEAT OR INCINERATION ONLY" on the lid and sides.					

STORAGE TIME LIMITS

Amount of waste stored at room temperature unless otherwise specified	BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE	SHARPS WASTE READY FOR DISPOSAL	PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE READY FOR DISPOSAL	PATHOLOGY WASTE	TRACECHEMOTHERAPY WASTE
<20 lbs/month	30 days	30 days	-	30 days	Manage as sharps or biohazardous waste according to the type of container used for storage.
≥20 lbs/month	7 days	30 days	-	7 days	
≥200 lbs/month	7 days	30 days	-	7 days	
Stored below 0° C (32° F)	90 days	90 days	-	90 days	
Any amount of pharmaceutical waste	-	-	90 days when ready for disposal, or at least once per year	-	-

RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL WASTE GENERATORS

Total medical waste (all categories) generated is ≥200 lbs /month (LQG) w or w/o onsite treatment:	2 years
Medical waste DOT Materials of Trade Exception & pharmaceutical waste hauling exemption w/tracking documents:	2 LQG, 3 years SQG
Total medical waste (all categories) generated is less than 200 lbs /month (SQG) w or w/o onsite treatment::	3 years



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STORAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATED MEDICAL WASTE ACCUMULATION AREA:

- ♦ Shall be secured to prevent unauthorized access.
- ♦ Shall have warning signs in English and Spanish and be visible during daylight hours from at least 25 feet.
"CAUTION-BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA- UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT"
"CUIDADO-ZONA DE RESIDUOS-BIOLOGICOS PELIGROSOS-PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS NO AUTORIZADAS"

Generator's Label

(Must include this information):

Name: I. M. Sharp, DDS
Address: 123 Needle Stick Drive
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone #: (619) 123-4567

BIOHAZARD LABEL OR EQUIVALENT



BIOHAZARD

or

**"BIOHAZARDOUS
WASTE"**

COMMON HAZARDOUS WASTES GENERATED

HAZARDOUS WASTES	TYPE OF PRACTICE			TREATMENT OPTIONS	
	Dental	Veterinary	Medical	RECYCLING	DISPOSAL AS HAZARDOUS WASTE
Photoprocessing Waste	✓	✓	✓	✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Formalin + Ethanol mix (sterilizers)	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓
Cold sterilants containing Glutaraldehyde (2.7% or greater conc.)*	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓*
Cold sterilants containing OPA (Orthophthaldehyde)*	✓	✓	✓	NA	✓*
Dental amalgam	✓			✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Pourable Chemotherapy Waste		✓	✓	NA	✓
Universal Waste	✓	✓	✓	✓ Preferred treatment	✓
Lead foil (hazardous if not recycled)	✓			✓ Preferred treatment	✓

* These wastes may also be treated onsite without a permit using a glycine-based treatment. Consult your Area Specialist for more information.